

ADMINISTRATION ON AGING (AoA)

(Dollars in millions)

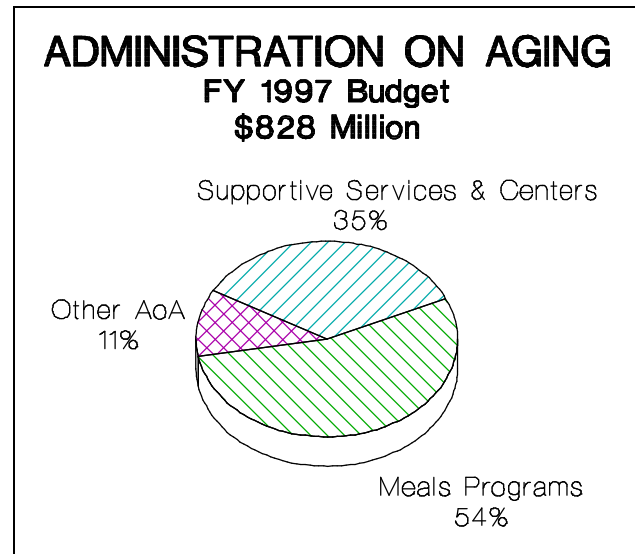
	1995 <u>Actual</u>	1996 <u>Policy*</u>	1997 <u>Request</u>	Request <u>+/-Policy</u>
Program Level/BA	\$876	\$828	\$828	\$0
Outlays	951	776	819	+\$43
FTE ...	177	177	177	0

* Based on levels of the ninth CR, including an incremental policy adjustment.

Summary

The FY 1997 budget for the Administration on Aging (AoA) provides \$828 million for programs aimed at improving older Americans' quality of life. In addition, the budget reflects the Administration's desire to consolidate, in AoA, the management and oversight of programs that serve the elderly.

The Department of Agriculture will transfer administration of their Nutrition Programs for the Elderly to AoA, and the Department of Labor will transfer administration of their Older Workers program to AoA. The programs funded by AoA help senior citizens remain independent and productive.



AoA serves older persons and their families through the administration of the Older Americans Act and aging-related research and educational projects. As the focal point in the Federal Government for serving older persons, AoA works to advance the dignity and independence of the nations' elderly. By the year 2030, the number of people aged 60 and older will increase to 89 million, while those 85 and older will increase to almost nine million. AoA recognizes the need to address these demographic changes, and is striving to prepare both older and younger Americans for their aging.

Nutrition Programs

For FY 1997, AoA requests \$451.2 million for Nutrition Programs. Over 240 million meals

were served last year through the Aging Network--about half of meal recipients are low-income elders and about 16 percent of recipients are members of minority groups. Recipients of home-delivered meals are among the most vulnerable elderly in the community, with 73 percent considered to be frail and disabled and 53 percent being low-income. Between 1980-1993, the number of home-delivered meals increased by 180 percent, reflecting not only a growing elderly population but also an elderly population composed of increasingly older and more frail individuals. Moreover, the volunteers who deliver the meals often serve as informal gatekeepers, assessing if recipients have other needs and linking them to additional services.

Congregate nutrition services provide a cooked, ready, nutritious meal to seniors in a group setting. Participation in a group setting reduces isolation and encourages continued physical and mental functioning. The Older Americans Act directs that priority be given to those who are in greatest economic and social need, with particular attention to low-income, minority older persons.

Supportive Services

The FY 1997 budget request reflects AoA's commitment to ensure that older Americans have an independent, productive, healthy and secure life. Supportive services represent the cornerstone of the comprehensive and coordinated system of home and community-based services that address the needs of the elderly. The FY 1997 budget provides funding for a network of 57 State units, 228 Indian tribal organizations, 670 Area Agencies on Aging, approximately 6,000 senior centers and more than 27,000 service providers throughout the country. Supportive services and centers have provided over 40 million rides, over 12 million responses for information and referrals, nearly 10 million personal care services to elderly in need, and approximately one million legal counseling sessions.

Long-Term Care

One of the great challenges confronting America's families is care for relatives who are elderly or disabled. This challenge is often accompanied by fear as older and disabled persons face their own aging or increased disabilities. The FY 1997 request reflects a commitment to addressing these family needs as it shapes a long-term care system for the future.

The FY 1997 budget request provides \$9.2 million for in-home services for the frail elderly. The rapid growth of the age 85 and over population brings new demands for care because of limited mobility, increasing disability, more elderly living alone and the higher risk of poverty. By supporting the provision of services to frail older individuals, the program increases the access of vulnerable older individuals to needed assistance and helps them avoid institutionalization.

The Long-Term Ombudsman Program will be funded at \$4.5 million in FY 1997. This request underscores the crucial role ombudsmen play in the long-term care system and the

useful assistance they provide to residents and their families related to their care. Ombudsman programs in all States, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia serve the Nation's 1.5 million nursing home residents, who are the most frail and vulnerable group in the long-term care system.

Additional activities funded through AoA include basic and applied research on the chronic illnesses that contribute to disability and efforts to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of community-based long-term care systems. The challenge here is to enable States and local governments to design and build on innovative models of integrated care and service delivery and to make their long-term care systems more customer-oriented in FY 1997.

Proposed Transfers

AoA's reauthorization legislation pending before Congress proposes to transfer \$150 million from the USDA's Nutrition Program for the Elderly, and replace it with the Nutrition Services Incentive Program under Title III-C of the Older Americans Act. The Nutrition Services Incentive Program would be administered by AoA; however, the funds would continue to be appropriated to the Department of Agriculture.

The reauthorization also proposes to transfer the Department of Labor's Community Service Employment for Older Americans program (Title V) to AoA. This proposal would ensure national responsiveness to local community needs. It would allow greater flexibility to consolidate, coordinate, link and expand limited resources to enhance community service and employment and training for low-income seniors. The proposed transfer would amount to \$350 million.

AoA OVERVIEW

(Dollars in millions)

	<u>1995 Actual</u>	<u>1996 Policy/1</u>	<u>1997 Request</u>	<u>Request +/-Policy</u>
<u>Current Law:</u>				
Supportive Services	\$306	\$295	\$295	\$0
Meals:				
Congregate Meals	376	357	357	0
Home-Delivered	<u>94</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>0</u>
Subtotal, Meals	\$470	\$451	\$451	\$0
 In-home Services-Frail Elderly.	\$9	\$9	\$9	\$0
Indian/Tribal Grants	17	16	16	0
Preventive Health	17	17	17	0
Research, Training and Demos.	26	12	12	0
Ombudsman Services.	5	5	5	0
Prevention of Elder Abuse	5	5	5	0
Pension Counseling.	2	2	2	0
White House Conference	3	0	0	0
Federal Administration	16	16	16	0
Federal Council on Aging	<u>0.1</u>	<u>0.2</u>	<u>0.2</u>	<u>0</u>
 Subtotal, BA	\$876	\$828	\$828	\$0
 <u>Proposed Transfers:</u> ²				
Department of Ag./NPE	(\$150)	(\$150)	(\$150)	\$0
Department of Labor	<u>(396)</u>	<u>(350)</u>	<u>(350)</u>	<u>0</u>
 Subtotal, Proposed Transfers	<u>(\$546)</u>	<u>(\$500)</u>	<u>(\$500)</u>	<u>\$0</u>
 Total, BA	\$876	\$828	\$828	\$0
 FTE..... ..	177	177	177	0

1/ Based on levels of the ninth CR, including an incremental policy adjustment.

2/ Proposed Bill language transfers \$150 million from the Department of Ag. Nutrition Programs for the Elderly (NPE) and \$350 million from the Department of Labor Community Work Program for the Elderly to be administered by AoA. 1995 Actual and 1996 Policy levels for these programs are provided for comparison only.